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File "Memos
to DCI"

1 September 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : Presidential Briefing Coordinator

SUBJECT : Preparations for Future Presidential Briefings and Meetings with Cabinet Officers

*Done
by [unclear]*

1. This memorandum discusses plans for future Presidential Briefings and also discusses your meetings with Secretary Vance. Two other packages are being sent forward separately, one with material for the 12 September briefing and one with material for later briefings. [redacted] 25X1A will schedule their submission to you to meet your travel requirements.

2. Attached is my latest status report on briefing topics.

a. Please skim it and tell me if you object to any decisions I have made, particularly with respect to dropping topics or holding them in abeyance.

b. The topic Cuban Relations with the Nonaligned Nations is listed as a nomination because of a comment you made on the 15 August NSC Meeting. It seemed to imply that the President believed that pressure from the nonaligned nations was causing Castro to pull in his horns. The gist of my talk with NIO/LA is that Castro does not feel significant pressure and indeed he may well be more aggressive in the future. Should you plan to discuss this with the President? If so, one probably would also want to ask if there were any [redacted] 25X1A [redacted] which might have given the appearance of greater pressure on Castro than was in fact the case.

11 SEP 1978

*Conf NAM re-
ports as well as
LA send to [unclear]*

c. The topic Soviet & Western European Views of Strategic Attack Forces in Western Europe also is listed as a nomination because of the 15 August NSC Meeting. In two NSC meetings, the one on DoD Fiscal Guidance and this one, the question of Soviet (and Western European?) reactions to GLCMs or MRBMs in Western Europe has come up. I don't have a feel for the importance of the topic and my general impression from talking to analysts is that the answer is, "Western Europeans would support such moves if the ground work was properly laid and the Soviets would complain bitterly, but would not do anything much different than what they are now doing." However, we are not doing any research on this topic specifically. Should we be doing research and if so should we prepare a Presidential Briefing? 25X1

*Yes, though I suspect you're
convinced what will happen right
in this [unclear]*

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3. You have not met with Secretary Vance for sometime. I recommend that you consider making a vigorous effort to meet with him regularly.

a.. Pros. The broad Presidential Briefings on political issues which we are preparing are appropriate for Secretary Vance too. His role places him more in jeopardy of losing the forest for the trees than almost any other Cabinet officer. Therefore, treating a broad political issue from a different (DCI vice State) perspective weekly or bi-weekly should be helpful to him. Also, you could profit from getting his perspective on international issues or policy matters.

b. Cons. Both of your schedules are filled to overflowing already and inevitably your schedule will have to be perturbed to fit into Vance's rather than vice versa. Therefore, the value of regular meetings may not justify the cost to your ability to handle your other responsibilities.

Schedule Pres

No - Vance Mkt as #2 rising - keep trying

4. The following matters concern Presidential Briefing preparations more generally.

a. I still owe you a proposal for a briefing in which you and 1-2 others discuss a broad issue in a "give-and-take" mode to see if the chemistry of such a briefing would work. The current topics that seem best suited for this are African Trends, Western Sahara and Persian Gulf. I will work up a specific proposal while you are gone next week.

Bills piece

b. I think that the monthly Around-the-Table with the NIOs is working out. It is well received by other attendees. But I recommend making these sessions more open-ended. With your permission, I will ask Barbara to keep the half hour after this monthly session open so that you can either cut off the meeting after the hour scheduled for it or can feel free to return to some subject for deeper exploration.

*I prefer
CS to this!*

c. For your information, I am not happy with the other NIO meetings. I have been unable to focus them so that they really support your briefing preparations. At the same time, some other participants don't seem to be learning from them. I do not have a good alternative, but am trying to develop one.

d. More formal feedback to analysts preparing briefings would help. Briefings evince less enthusiasm than papers in part because the analyst's reward structure centers on having a piece of paper that his seniors and promotion boards can see. Therefore, I would like to send the principal analysts who prepare a briefing a memorandum like the one attached. Doing this will involve me paraphrasing pieces of your memorandum for the record. The risk here is that, although I will strive mightily to avoid it, I may include something that you would prefer not go to the analyst.

Also encourage publication of the better² -

No-go - must do it

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5. I trust that the very informal arrangement Jay and I have worked out in which he usually handles NSC/SCC/PRC meeting preparations, and your meetings with Dr. Brzezinski and I handle Presidential Briefings, formal NSC briefings and Cabinet Officers meetings (except when one of us needs to pinch hit for the other) is acceptable. The process is still messy, but I think it will get less disorderly as it evolves.

File & it's working great



25X1A

Attachments

- 3 -

S E C R E T

1 September 1978

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

THROUGH : Director, Regional and Political Analysis

FROM : Presidential Briefing Coordinator

SUBJECT : Presidential Briefing on Micronesia

1. The Director briefed the President on Micronesia on 4 July. The briefing was well received. In particular, the Director felt that the discussion of the strategic implications of copra production was valuable. There also was a lively discussion of the prospects for regional political cooperation during the briefing.

2. The Director has asked me to relay his thanks to you for your work in preparing the Micronesia briefing. He views such briefings as one of his most important responsibilities as Director of Central Intelligence.

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SECRET

1 September 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: All Office Directors and NIOs

FROM : Presidential Briefing Coordinator

SUBJECT : Presidential Briefing Topics for September and Later

1. Law of the Sea was covered in the 17 August Presidential Briefing in addition to some administrative and operational matters.

2. No briefings are scheduled until 12 September. The topics nominated for this briefing are:

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OK

- A. Soviet/Cuban Options in Southern Africa
- B. [REDACTED]
- C. Cuban manpower

Relook in new report 10,000

3. The following topics are in various stages of preparation for future Presidential Briefings. The responsible office and tentative briefing dates, if known are shown:

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- A. Monitoring Arms Control Agreements (PBC)
- B. [REDACTED]

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- C. The Persian Gulf (NIO/NP) 26 Sep
- D. [REDACTED] (NIO/NESA)
- E. Libyan Foreign Policy (CTS/OWI) 19 Sep
- F. Eastern European Dissidents (ORPA) mid-Oct
- G. Human Rights (ORPA)
- H. International Narcotics (ORPA) 26 Sep
- I. East Germany (ORPA) 19 Sep
- J. Monitoring a CTB (NIO/USSR-EE)
- K. African Trends (RM/OPEI)
- L. The Western Sahara (NIO/AF) 3 Oct
- M. Latin American Trends (NIO/NESA)
- N. [REDACTED] (NIO/AA)
- O. [REDACTED] (NSA)
- [REDACTED] (OER)

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4. The following topics have been nominated for and accepted as briefing topics. However, preparation is being held in abeyance. The responsible office and factors determining the delay are described below for each topic.

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- A. [] ORPA will determine time and purposes of Prime Minister [] visit and restructure briefing to support preparations.
- B. [] OSR will evaluate information collected in early September and if it is sufficient prepare the briefing.
- C. PRC Strategic Forces and Soviet Perceptions of Them. NIO/SP will prepare briefing when work on this subject being undertaken as part of an IIM has reached the point that it can support a briefing.
- D. NATO's Northern Flank. NIO/USSR-EE will prepare briefing when IIM on this subject can support it (late October?).
- E. Moves Toward Western European Unity. The long-term picture is basically satisfactory. NIO/WE will note when enough is known about the prospects for European parliamentary elections to say something useful and complete that part of the briefing.
- F. Indonesia. NIO/EAP is reviewing the feasibility of incorporating this into a broader discussion of Southeast Asia. If it is not feasible, a briefing on Indonesia itself will be prepared.
- G. International Energy Conservation. OER will prepare the briefing as soon as 1977 data are available.
- H. Rhodesia Internal Settlement Prospects. NIO/AF is following the development of the Soviet/Cuban Options in Southern Africa briefing and will determine whether the prospects for the internal settlement are adequately covered or ORPA should prepare a separate briefing.
- I. Korean Military Situation. NIO/EAP will prepare the briefing when interagency work on the order of battle update is complete.

5. The following topics have been proposed as possible future topics for Presidential Briefings. Preparation work on these topics should not begin until the nomination is approved and a responsible officer is named.

- A. Oil Booms & Social Change in LDCs
- B. Cuban Relations with the Nonaligned Nations
- C. Soviet & European Views of Strategic Attack Forces in Western Europe
- D. Monitoring Opium Poppy Cultivation []

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6. The following topics have been dropped from the list of active topics for the reasons indicated.

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- A. Soviet Missile Accuracy. Being handled by a memorandum report.
- B. Israeli-Egyptian Prospects. Being handled by a series of memoranda and meetings.
- C. [redacted] Higher priority topics will preclude use of this topic.
- D. Nigeria. Adequately covered by the combination of written material and the general view of African trends.
- E. Sudan. Expert opinion is that all information needed in preparation for the Sudanese President's visit can be adequately handled by memoranda.
- F. Afghanistan. Overcome by events.
- G. [redacted] Overcome by events.
- H. [redacted] Supporting research work will not be completed for some time. If the topic appears to merit a briefing then, OWI or OSI renominate it.

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7. Basic preparation work has been completed on the following briefings. They are being held awaiting an appropriate opportunity to use them. Then the responsible officer will be contacted by the PBC for a last-minute review and update of the briefing. Responsible officers are requested to inform the PBC if these topics are to be treated in the PDB, NID or other intelligence publication so that the briefings can be canceled or modified as appropriate.

- A. Nuclear Power in the LDCs (OER)
- B. Soviet Nuclear Power Program (OSI)
- C. Foreign Free World Fiber Optical Communications (OSI)

8. For the next few weeks, there will be no need for submission of additional presidential Briefing topic nominations. This does not rule out a topic you feel should definitely be prepared. In that case, feel free to forward a nomination at anytime.

9. A tentative schedule for major topic preparation is attached.



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Attachment

SECRET

1 September 1978

TENTATIVE MAJOR TOPIC PREPARATION SCHEDULE

Week of	Backup Material to DCI on:	DCI/NFAC Meeting on:	Presidential Briefing on:
25X1A 4 Sep		(none)	(none) 25X1A
11 Sep	CTB Monitoring East European Dissidents	Around-the- table-with- NIOs	Options in Southern Africa 25X1A Cuban Manpower
18 Sep	African Trends	Human Rights or a Look at Post-Summit Reactions	-International Narcotics
25 Sep	Libyan Foreign Policy	African Trends	Human Rights 25X1A Dissidents
2 Oct	?	?	African Trends

Filler material is or will be available on the following topics:

25X1A	-Fiber Optical Communications	-Nuclear Power in LDCs	25X1A
	-Monitoring Arms Control Agreements	-CTB Monitoring	

Note that this schedule is tentative. It will be revised weekly and major changes may take place from week to week.

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